

the growing threat of terrorist groups like ISIL Daesh.

Hearing Prime Minister Netanyahu speak out against radical Islam and warn the world about the threat of a nuclear Iran, I was reminded of another great leader who addressed Congress nearly 75 years ago. Winston Churchill and Binyamin Netanyahu are the only two foreign leaders to address a joint session of Congress three times.

Like many, I believe Prime Minister Netanyahu is the Churchill of our time. Both men had to fight against global threats of unmatched and barbaric proportions but also stood firm to other world leaders advancing a strategy of appeasement over strength. I only hope that we heed Netanyahu's words now before it is too late to stop the spread of nuclear weapons.

In conclusion, God bless our troops. And may the President, by his actions, never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

JUDGE EUGENE FAHEY, NEW YORK STATE COURT OF APPEALS

(Mr. HIGGINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, on February 9, the nomination of Judge Eugene Fahey of Buffalo to a seat on the New York State Court of Appeals was confirmed.

I have known Gene for many years, starting when we were colleagues on the Buffalo Common Council. Gene went on to judicial service, first as a city court judge and later as a trial and appellate justice of the New York State Supreme Court. Gene's decisions include a landmark ruling affirming the validity of New York's marriage equality statute.

As colleagues on the council, Gene and I had many conversations about public service, though rarely about where our respective careers might take us. It is with tremendous pride that we now see Gene taking a seat as an associate justice on the most celebrated, top-level State court in the United States. His service will be a great credit to those whom he is sworn to serve.

Mr. Speaker, in Justice Eugene Fahey, the New York Court of Appeals gains a towering intellect, a booming voice, a compassionate heart, and an accomplished lead guitarist.

My best wishes go to Gene; his wife, Colleen; and their daughter, Ann.

DHS FUNDING AND THE PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE ACTIONS

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the House voted with bipartisan support to pass H.R. 240, legislation to fund the Department of Homeland Security through September 30, 2015.

It is our constitutional duty to ensure that our country remains safe, and playing politics with Homeland Security funding, when the world is as dangerous as it is today, is simply unacceptable. Make no doubt about it, it is critically important to stop the President's actions on immigration. But at a time like this, it would be gravely irresponsible to allow the Department of Homeland Security to shut down, or even to have the appearance of that.

When the executive and legislative branches of our government are in disagreement, the judicial branch must play referee, and that is exactly what took place when a Federal judge sided with a complaint filed by 26 States in opposition to the President's move toward amnesty.

Now that our Federal courts have halted President Obama's executive actions, further rulings will closely examine how the President has overreached his constitutional authorities.

Mr. Speaker, considering all of the facts, voting "yes" on Homeland Security funding yesterday was the right decision. However, this does not compromise my position of standing strong against the President's executive actions.

FUNDING DHS

(Mr. CARTWRIGHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise with some relief to note that yesterday, we did come together to fully fund the Department of Homeland Security. A number of us came together and ignored the extremist shutdown crowd and did the responsible thing and funded this Department.

I regret that the Department had to spend millions of dollars to prepare for a shutdown that it anticipated having to go through. Nevertheless, this is a Department that protects our Nation at a time when ISIL is executing journalists and aid workers and Christians and Muslims, when al Shabaab is threatening our Nation's biggest shopping mall. We need the Department of Homeland Security. And I say, Bully.

Let us continue to do the responsible thing and fund our departments, including the Department of Homeland Security.

IRAN

(Mr. STUTZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is very clear that we cannot trust the tyrannical regime in Iran. For many years, our own State Department has determined that Iran is one of the world's leading state sponsors of terrorism.

As Prime Minister Netanyahu reminded us yesterday, the Iranian Government has consistently called for the

destruction of Israel and has referred to the United States as the "Great Satan." Does this sound like a negotiating partner that we can trust?

If anyone is unwilling to acknowledge their support for terror groups like Hezbollah or their hateful words toward America and Israel, then consider how this regime acts toward its own people. They stifle dissent by restricting the most basic political freedoms within their borders—the freedoms of speech, assembly, and press. They often jail opposition leaders and journalists and hold them without cause.

If Iran wants to be considered a legitimate power, they should stop arming and aiding terror groups and open up their political system to prove to the world that they are committed to freedom and peace. They can start by releasing all political prisoners, including Washington Post reporter Jason Rezaian, who has been unjustly imprisoned for over 200 days. These steps should be taken before the U.S. continues to negotiate any nuclear deal.

PLAYING PARTY POLITICS

(Mr. AGUILAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, last week we were pushed to the brink of shutting down the Department of Homeland Security, the agency tasked with safeguarding our homeland from threats here and abroad, all because Congress couldn't do its job. Only weeks after horrific attacks in Paris and with news of ISIS every day, the House majority risked the national security of our country to play party politics.

We cannot continue to govern in crisis mode, threatening the safety of American lives, jobs, and our homeland, so my colleagues can score political points. Enough is enough.

Threatening to shut down DHS was reckless, unnecessary, and completely avoidable. The House majority's games have forced Congress away from its most critical priority, working for middle class families to create jobs, improve transportation and infrastructure, invest in education, and protect programs for our seniors. It is time to stop playing political games and get back to what the people elected us to do.

HONORING MAJOR TRENT COLESTOCK, UNITED STATES ARMY

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Army congressional liaison to the U.S. House of Representatives Major Trent Colestock. The Army has recognized his patriotism, abilities, and his demonstrated potential for increased responsibility, and